

# Our Lady of Good Counsel

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT • DECEMBER 5, 2021



“Prepare THE WAY  
OF THE OF THE Lord.”  
LUKE 3:4

©JPPC

**Rev. Ariel Robles, Pastor**  
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**Brenda O'Callaghan, CRE**

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## **MASSES**

**Weekdays:** Monday thru Friday 7:30 AM,  
Saturday 8:00 AM

**Weekends:** Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM  
Sunday 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

**Holy Days:** 7:30 AM, Noon & 7:00 PM

## **Reconciliation:**

Saturdays 4:00 to 4:30 PM ~ Mask are required

**Advent Penance Service**  
**December 11 at 10:00 AM**

# OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL CHURCH

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

<b>SATURDAY,</b> 5:00 PM	<b>DECEMBER 4, 2021</b> For Intentions of Elianna Bree Diaz r/o Grandmother, Wanda Diaz People of the Parish
<b>SUNDAY,</b> 8:30 AM	<b>DECEMBER 5, 2021</b> <b>Second Sunday of Advent ~ Peace</b> Eleanor C. Roach r/o Deacon Steve & Mary Philomena Muscente r/o Frank Ferri Sara Cooper r/o Dylan Rutkowski Nicholas Muscente, Sr. & Intentions of Marie Muscente r/o Daughter
<b>MONDAY,</b> 7:30 AM	<b>DECEMBER 6, 2021</b> James E. Newell, III r/o Debbie & Family
<b>TUESDAY,</b> 7:30 AM	<b>DECEMBER 7, 2021</b> Get Well Intentions of John Elliott r/o Hope Holland
<b>WEDNESDAY,</b> 7:30 AM	<b>DECEMBER 8, 2021</b> <b>Feast of the Immaculate Conception</b> Mary & Thomas Miles r/o Helen Marie Dolton <b>Join us for the Rosary after 7:30 AM Mass</b> Philomena Muscente r/o Nancy & Danielle Milano <b>Join us for the Rosary 30 minutes before 12 PM Mass</b> 7:00 PM For Respect for Life from Conception to Natural Death r/o Mary Arcadipane <b>Join us for the Rosary 30 minutes before 7 PM Mass</b>
<b>THURSDAY,</b> 8:30 AM	<b>DECEMBER 9, 2021</b> Get Well Intentions of Faith Holland r/o Hope Holland
<b>FRIDAY,</b> 7:30 AM	<b>DECEMBER 10, 2021</b> Deceased Members Fekete & Walley Family r/o Family
<b>SATURDAY,</b> 8:00 AM <b>10:00 AM</b> 5:00 PM	<b>DECEMBER 11, 2021</b> Special Intention <b>Advent Penance Service</b> Paul Sollami r/o Charles & Diane Fair Jennifer Englander r/o Arcadipane Family
<b>SUNDAY,</b> 8:30 AM 10:30 AM	<b>DECEMBER 12, 2021 ~ Gaudete Sunday</b> <b>Third Sunday of Advent ~ Joy</b> Marie J. Hall r/o Tedeschi Family People of the Parish Grace Venanzi r/o Marlene Waldron



## CHURCH SUPPORT

Carol Smith Hanson r/o Mom & Family

Parishioners using envelopes	112
Envelope Contributions	\$2,387.00
Average Contribution	\$21.31
Loose Cash	\$538.00
Contributions for November 28th	\$2,925.00

Next weekend is the Annual Religious Retirement Collection. There will be two separate collections.

Thank you for your generosity.

Friend us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/OlqcWestTrenton/>



## Readers

<b>SATURDAY,</b> 5:00 PM	<b>DECEMBER 11</b> Mary Anne LeGall
<b>SUNDAY,</b> 8:30 AM	<b>DECEMBER 12</b> Laura Shea
10:30 AM	Maggie Masterson

## Eucharistic Ministers

<b>SATURDAY,</b> 5:00 PM	<b>DECEMBER 11</b> Jackie Crane
<b>SUNDAY,</b> 8:30 AM	<b>DECEMBER 12</b> Tom Maguire
10:30 AM	Tony Jones

## Altar Servers

<b>SATURDAY</b> 5:00 PM	<b>DECEMBER 11</b> James Gummel
<b>SUNDAY,</b> 8:30 AM	<b>DECEMBER 12</b> Brayden Spina & Daniel Wilkes
10:30 AM	Dylan Rutkowski

## News & Events

**Saturday, December 11** Novenas follow morning Mass.  
**Reconciliation** There are no Confessions at 4:30 due to Advent Penance Service at 10 AM.

**OLGCC~ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE~ Cohort 9**  
*Saturday, December 11th at 10:00 a.m.*  
*Additional Priest for Confession, mask required.*

**Pray for our Sick:** Allan Baenziger, Rosemarie Buker, Richard Cook, Katie Dao, Al Gatto, Elizabeth Gervasoni, Theresa Gregorio, Sherri Hanlon, Marie Hegyi, Carol Lake, Kevin McBride, Keith Mello, Joan Moore, Marie Muscente, Kim Nash, Angelika Niranjana, Carol Perrine, Lucy Saganowski, Gregory Schafer, Kristy Shanahan, Steve Schmierer, Linda Solinski, Paul Sollami, Stanley Wroble, Nancy Newell Yeomans and all parishioners who are sick or homebound.

Please call the parish office at 609-882-3277 to add a name to the prayer list and to inform us when all is well so we may take a name off the list.



The Flowers placed at the Blessed Mother's Altar  
December 4-5 are  
In Loving Memory of Jennie Ferri r/o Family

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## Deacon Steve Szmuto's Reflection on the Sunday Readings December 5, 2021 – Second Sunday of Advent Baruch 5: 1-9 Psalm 126: 1-6 Philippians 1: 4-6, 8-11 Luke 3: 1-6

*"God is leading Israel in joy by the light of his glory, with his mercy and justice for company." (Baruch)*

The day approaches; the time is near. Watch for the signs! Things will happen that have not happened before; the world will change, and nothing will ever be the same again. Each day of Advent brings us closer to the Solemnity of the Nativity, when the Son of God, eternally divine, entered the world, took on the fullness of humanity to redeem all people, reconciling them to God.

John the Baptist was the son of Zechariah and Elizabeth. He was introduced in the first Chapter of Luke's Gospel, when the angel prophesied to Zechariah that he would be born to Elizabeth, despite their advanced ages. The expectant Elizabeth was the one to whom Mary – having discovered that she was with child by the Holy Spirit – visited and whose own child leapt in the womb. Elizabeth, upon seeing Mary, proclaimed: *"Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why is this granted me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?"* We later learned that John *"grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the desert until the day of his manifestation to Israel."* We will hear the account of Mary's visit to Elizabeth on the Fourth Sunday of Advent.

In today's reading from the Gospel of Luke, we learn of the coming of The Baptist, the last and the greatest of all the prophets. John lived in the desert when the word of God came to him to serve Him. *"John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins."* He was the one foreshadowed in the Book of the Prophet Isaiah as, *"A voice of one crying out in the desert . . . 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.'" The connection between John and Jesus was strong -- both on a human level and from the standpoint of salvation history, as we will see in the Gospel reading on the third and fourth Sundays of Advent.*

John the Baptist appears in greater or lesser detail in each of the Gospels. When he came from the desert, many wondered if he was the Messiah. Yet from the beginning, he characterized himself as simply a messenger, calling for a change of heart in anticipation of the Lord. The people were attracted to his simple, direct, and bold call to a change of heart to prepare for the coming of the Savior. His words echoed that of the many prophets and is foreshadowed in the Book of the Prophet Baruch. *"God has commanded that every lofty mountain be made low, and that the age-old depths and gorges be filled to level ground, that Israel may advance secure in the glory of God."*

The readings today and throughout the Season of Advent remind us of the call to prepare for the Lord, to turn our lives around so that we might open our hearts to the coming of Jesus Christ. This is the time of fulfillment! This is the time of anticipation! This is the time when we will experience the glory of the Lord, the Messiah, the Son of God who offers himself in loving sacrifice for the sake of our eternal souls. As we heard in the Responsorial Psalm, *"The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy."*

**Deacon Steven K. Szmuto**

## RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS COLLECTION

A special collection to benefit **the Retirement Fund for Religious** will be taken up during Masses in parishes across the Diocese of Trenton the weekend of Dec. 11-12.

**Ageing Religious need your help.** In good times and bad, senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have dedicated themselves to service and acts of mercy. Today, they pray for an aching world. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left their religious communities without enough retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please say, "Yes Sister", one more time.



# DECEMBER 5, 2021

Please join us at the Rosary Altar Society's annual **Little Christmas Luncheon**



Sunday, January 16, 2022

12:30 p.m.

Acacia Restaurant  
2637 Main Street, Lawrenceville

Choice of Mesclun Green Salad or Caesar Salad  
Penne Vodka

Your choice of: Organic Chicken Breast with Mashed Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetable

Roasted Scottish Salmon with Roasted Potatoes & Sautéed Spinach

Eggplant Parmesan with Mixed Vegetables

Flourless Chocolate Torte or Coffee Cake  
Soft Drinks/Coffee/Tea - BYOB

No need to select entrée.

Choice will be made at the restaurant.

Parishioners are welcome to bring a guest.

\$40 per person, payable to ISJ Rosary Altar Society  
RSVP by Sunday, January 6

Please drop in the collection basket marked RAS luncheon. There is plenty of parking behind the restaurant. Directions will be provided.

\*\*\*\*\*

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Guest: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ check# \_\_\_\_\_

RSVP to: ISJ RAS

1545 Pennington Road Ewing, NJ 08618.

Please call Joyce Raymond at 609-306-0663 or

Mary Frances Mendola at 609-883-1865

with any questions.



## Christmas Gifting Outreach

Once again it is your opportunity to participate in our **Christmas Gifting Outreach** ministry where our parishioners purchase gifts for those in need in our Diocese to help brighten their Christmas holiday.

To participate, please take a gift tag, or more, from the baskets located in the front Church vestibule. This year's tags include infant (0-2 yrs), toddler (2-4 yrs.), child (5-10 yrs.), and teen (11-13 yrs.). Purchase the gift, attach your gift tag to it and return it to the designated table in the Rectory Garage by **Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup>**. Please do NOT wrap your gift.

For those who do like to wrap gifts, consider **adopting a family** this Christmas. Catholic Charities of Trenton is searching for **Adopt-a-Family** donors right now. Struggling families of various sizes provide wish lists for specific items, which you can help provide. Family sizes include Small (2 people), Medium (3-5 people), Large (6 or more) or No preference.

Please call Jim Gambino of our Social Services Committee at 609-818-1708 to find out how you can participate in this program and help brighten Christmas morning for a struggling family in our Diocese this year.

**Adopt-a-Family** gifts may also be left in the Rectory Garage.





**2021 ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SEASON SCHEDULE**

*Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception*

*Wednesday, December 8, 2021*

7:30 AM, 12:00 NOON, 7:00 PM

*We will pray the Rosary 30 minutes before Mass*

**ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE ~ COHORT 9**

*Saturday, December 11, 2021*

10:00 AM

*Additional Priest will be available for Confession  
Mask are required.*

**CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASSES**

*Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup>*

5:00 PM ~ Contemporary Group

10:00 PM Midnight Mass ~ Adult Choir

*Christmas Day, Saturday, December 25<sup>th</sup>*

8:30 and 10:30 AM

(There is no Vigil Mass for Sunday)

*Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph*

*Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup>*

8:30 and 10:30 AM

*Mary, Mother of God*

*Vigil Mass, Friday, December 31<sup>st</sup>*

5:00 PM

*New Year's Day, Saturday, January 1, 2022*

9:00 AM

(There is no Vigil Mass for Sunday)

*The Epiphany of the Lord*

*Sunday January 2, 2022 ~ 8:30 and 10:30 AM*

**Church Office is CLOSED**

**December 24 to January 3**

May God's richest blessings continue with you  
through the coming year.

God bless you and your family,

Rev. Ariel Robles, Pastor

Deacon Steven Szmuto,

Brenda O'Callaghan, CRE



**ADVENT WREATH CANDLES**

The Advent Wreath candles are  
Donated *In Loving Memory* of:  
Rusty (Howard) Scott  
by Robyn G. Scott



**The Ewing Knights of Columbus  
Christmas Magnet Sales**

The Knights will be selling Christmas car magnets at all Masses. Your support will help the Knights continue their charitable activities.

**SIMBANG GABI**

A special part of Christmas celebrations of the Filipinos is **Simbang Gabi** (literally means "night Mass"). This is a novena of Masses in preparation for Christmas. The Filipino-American community has organized *Simbang Gabi* here in Mercer County: Nightly Mass being celebrated in nine different churches. Our Lady of Good Counsel Church has been chosen to host the Mass on December 21, 2021 at 7:00PM. All are invited to take part in this special Christmas preparation and celebration. See you!



**SAINT ANN  
YOUTH CHOIR  
CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2021**

The **Saint Ann Youth Choir** will present their annual **Christmas Concert** on **Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup>** beginning at **3:00 PM** in the **Church of Saint Ann, 1253 Lawrenceville road, Lawrenceville, NJ.** Please mark your calendar for a wonderful way to celebrate the coming of the birth of baby Jesus and have an enjoyable afternoon with our talented Youth Choir.

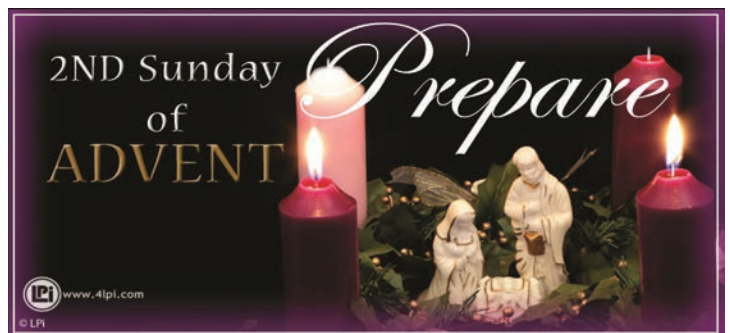
The concert is free and open to the public.  
**You are in for a GREAT TREAT!!**



Please Note **Early** Bulletin Deadlines

Articles for 12/19 Bulletin Due 12/06

Articles for 12/26 Bulletin Due 12/13





## *Share the Light*

Advent is about the coming of the Light----  
JESUS CHRIST. This Advent season, let's brighten  
up our church with Christmas lights.

This is to remind everybody,  
especially those who are losing hope, that the  
Light of Christ is greater than the darkness of  
evil. The pandemic has brought darkness to our  
lives, but the light of our hope will always shine.

Let us **share the light**. We will be accepting  
donations that we will use to buy Christmas  
lights to decorate our church property. Drop  
your donation in the collection basket or  
mail/take to the rectory in an envelope marked  
Christmas Lights.

Don't forget your name for credit.

Thank you very much.



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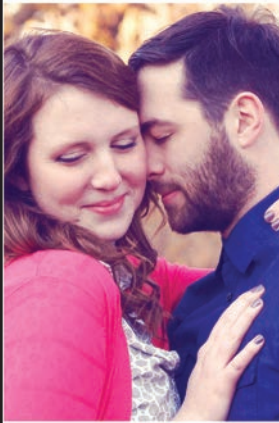
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